

# Wheels to Work

# Presentation:

Introduction of Concept – **Greg Burris**

History of Legal Issues

Description of Proposal

- Possible reasons for increase in panhandling
- Concerns
- Program Goals
- Two-Month Pilot Project
- Three-Pronged Approach

# Presentation:

Council of Churches' Role – **Mark Struckhoff**

Results of Initial Data Collection – **Tom Faulkner**

Services and Work Options – **Mary Ann Rojas**

Public Communication – **Cora Scott**

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# History of Legal Issues:

- City Panhandling bill passed late 2015, built upon a previous aggressive panhandling ordinance
- Federal lawsuit filed against the City Dec. 3, 2015 by a 61-year-old and the ACLU
- 2015 Supreme Court decision took the view that most panhandling laws were targeting the message

# History of Legal Issues:

- Courts around the country struck down panhandling laws, because they single out one topic of speech to regulate: panhandling.
- City Council repealed the ordinance addressing panhandling in February 2016.

# Issue:

Panhandling activity in Springfield seems to have markedly increased recently.

## Possible Reasons:

- Increasing levels of poverty
- Recent federal court rulings
- Springfield is considered a “giving community”
- Milder-than-normal weather

# Issue:

The City has received an increased number of complaints/concerns about panhandling.

These center around these themes:

- Perception of the increase and its impact on the community's reputation
- Safety concerns when panhandling occurs in or near traffic
- Concerns that panhandlers have no other options
- Inability to ascertain whether or not there is a verifiable need

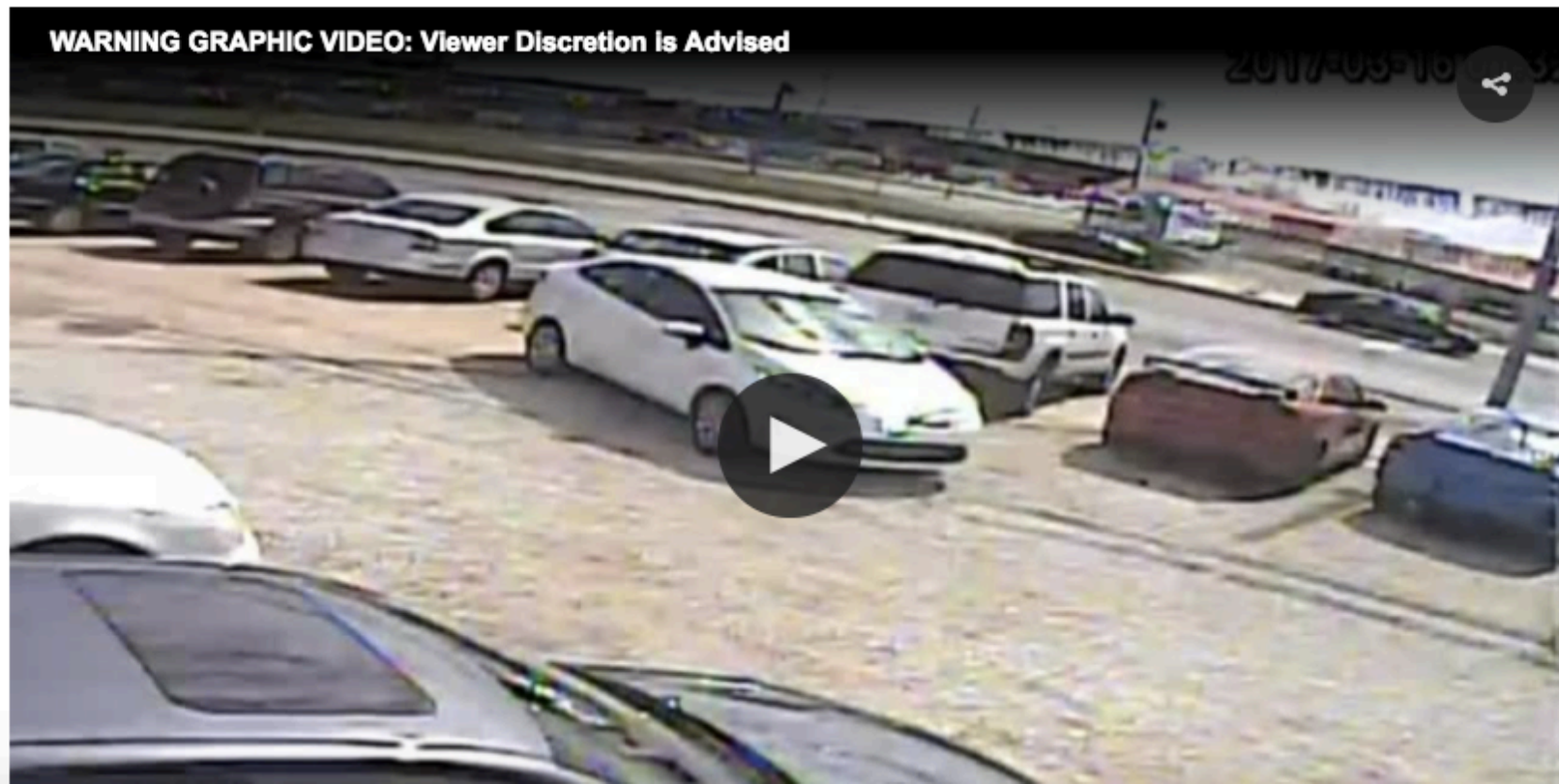


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## Graphic Video Viewer Discretion Advised; woman expected to be okay after being hit by a car

**WARNING GRAPHIC VIDEO: Viewer Discretion Is Advised**

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# Idea:

Implement a new pilot program, based on Albuquerque's "There's a Better Way" program.



# Goals:

- Treat panhandlers with respect & compassion
- Provide the dignity of work
- Connect with services
- Educate the community
- Reduce/end need for panhandling

# Proposal:

**A two-month pilot program would use a three-pronged approach.**

1. Learn more about the panhandling community
2. Offer daily dignity-promoting work opportunities
3. Educate our community about effective ways to help

# Learn more about the panhandling community

**Mark Struckhoff**

Executive Director, Council of Churches of the Ozarks

**Tom Faulkner**

Director, Crosslines



# Offer daily dignity- promoting work opportunities

**Mary Ann Rojas**

**City of Springfield Director of Workforce Development**

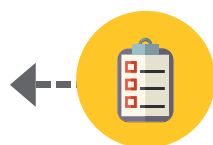


# Missouri Job Center Wheels to Work



## Instructions and Transport to People Ready

Once work-related needs have been addressed, the participant will be informed of the requirements and transported to People Ready where they will be given an assessment.



## Work-Related Needs Addressed

Upon choosing the immediate day labor option, the participant is presented with options regarding work-related service they can take advantage of. This could include a resume, work clothing, etc.



**Day Labor**

## Day Labor or Long-Term?

The participant is given the choice of pursuing day work or long-term employment options.



## Arrival of Participant

The participant arrives and is greeted by a Workforce Development Representative.

**Long-Term Employment**

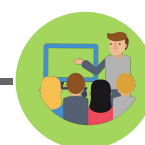
## Assignment to Customized Workshop

When a participant is interested in seeking long-term employment options, they will be assigned to a customized workshop.



## Attend Customized Workshop

This workshop will consist of a comprehensive assessment to determine their specific needs, an appropriate referral, and an assignment of a case manager. The assessment will be an evaluation of job readiness and/or a referral for other services (e.g., mental health services, housing services, etc.)



# Educate our community about effective ways to help

**Cora Scott**

**Director of Public Information & Civic Engagement**



# Messaging:

- Encourage those who want to to help to consider this alternative
- Encourage panhandlers to take this opportunity

# Panhandler Locations:

1. Kansas and I-44
2. Glenstone and Kearney
3. Glenstone and Division
4. Kansas and Kearney
5. Kearney and 65
6. James River/Glenstone
7. James River/National
8. Republic/Campbell
9. James River/Campbell
10. Sunshine/Campbell
11. Battlefield/Campbell
12. Battlefield/65

**HELP END  
PANHANDLING**

**DONATE**

**TO LOCAL  
CHARITIES**

**THAT HELP THE  
HUNGRY & HOMELESS**

**CALL 211**

**NEED  
HELP**

**WITH FOOD  
OR SHELTER?**

**CALL 211**

# Education:

- Referral cards
- Program brochure
- Social media
- Mainstream media
- Data collection & reporting
- Signage
- Consistent branding



# Branding:

